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# HOBENCITA



# MALTRATA Y VIOLA

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# DIA DI DERECHO DI AUTOR

Dia 23 di april autornan na mundo henter ta celebra. E dia aki a keda proclama como e DIA di "Derecho di Autor". Esaki ta un dia grandi pa tur autornan, sea cu ta un escritor, poeta, compositor, redactor, y tur otro autor cu ta crea obranan literario, scientifico y di arte, awe ta un dia special pa nan sinta y refleha riba nan obranan y nan significacion pa e comunidad mundial. Hopi biaha un autor no ta para keto y pensa kico ta e significacion di su cancion, di su buki, di su poema, di su coreografia, di su obra teatral o cualkier otro obra literario, scientifico o di arte, pa nos tur cu ta biba riba e mundo aki. Hopi di nos por ehempel a declara amor na nos pareha, basa riba un cancion di un cierto autor. Hopi di nos te ainda ta corda e storia cu nos a lesa den tal buki of e poema di cu bo yiu a lesa pa bo... Tur ta obranan crea pa autornan cu tin un mensahe pa nos. Asina nos por menciona mas autornan tambe, por ehempel e autor di un tesis, un rapport, un nota. Tur tin mensahenan cu nan kier transmiti pa otronan.

Awe autornan ta celebra nan dia. Pa e motivo aki Oficina di Propiedad Intelectual ta extende palabra di pabien na tur autor. Ohala boso por sigi inspira y crea mas y mas pa nos comunidad. Nos no por imagina un mundo sin creadornan di obra literario, scientifico y di arte. Con nos mundo lo ta?

Pa esnan cu no ta mucho informa riba e terreno di derecho di autor, nos kier a elabora un tiki kico esaki ta y su desaroyo na Aruba.

Derecho di Autor ta un derecho cu un autor di un obra ta obtene na momento di crea su obra. E derecho di autor ta un derecho exclusivo di e autor pa publica y multiplica su obra. E obra por ta un obra riba tereno di literatura, ciencia of arte. Un otro persona of instancia no por publica y/of multiplica obra di un autor, doño di e obra, sin su previo permiso, aunke tin biaha esaki sa sosode.

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Ley di derecho di autor ta permiti algun uzo parcial di un obra di otro sin permiso, pero esaki mester keda limita di tal forma cu ta uza solamente e informacion cu ta necesario pa splica e punto cu ta wordo discuti. Den un caso asina

mester menciona e fuente (obra) di cual a saca e informacion y nomber di e autor. E derecho moral aki e autor di un obra ta mantene semper. Naturalmente tin obranan cu no por uza mes, por ehempel un cantica. Ta con por graba un parti di un cantica existente den un cantica 'nobo' (sin permiso di e autor)? Mescos ora di skirbi un buki di storia, no por saca un parti di un storia di un otro buki hinca den e buki nobo. Esaki ta diferente ora ta trata di cosnan cu realmente a sosode y por keda presenta den un version nobo.

Ultimo tempo autornan a bira mas conciente di e balor di nan obra y nan derecho riba esaki y asina tambe ta acudi frecuentemente na Oficina di Propiedad Intelectual, pa laga registra nan obra. Aunke e Ley di Derecho di Autor ta duna e autor derecho ya na e creacion di e obra, sinembargo ta util pa un autor registra su obra. E certificado di derecho, cu un autor ta ricibi na e registracion, ta proba kende ta doño exclusivo di e obra of kende ta 'tata' of 'mama' di e obra, pero ta spierta otro tambe cu e obra ta registra. Pues un otro persona of instancia no por publica y/of multiplica e obra.

Pa obtene derecho di autor riba un obra, e obra mester ta nobo y unico, pues e obra mester tin un caracter original y un seyo personal di e autor cu a cre'e.

E obra por ta p.e: buki, foyeto, corant, revista, tesis, cancion, comedia, musical, poema,

coreografia, ceramica, pantomina, cuadro, pintura, diseño, logo, potret, film y ademas tur sorto di obra riba tereno di literatura, ciencia of arte.

Pa registra un obra y ricibi un certificado di derecho di autor for di Oficina di Propiedad Intelectual, e autor mester deposita un copia di e obra of potret di e obra na e oficina concerni, depende cu cual di esaki e por duna un mihor representacion di e obra. Tambe e mester yena un formulario y paga Afl.35,-- . Despues di 1 siman e autor por pasa busca su certificado.

E orario pa publico na Oficina di Propiedad Intelectual ta: 08.00-11.30 y 14.00-16.00.

Siguientemente por mira un resumen di e registracion di obra di e ultimo 5 añanan na Oficina di Propiedad Intelectual:

| <u>Aña:</u> | <u>Cantidad di obra:</u> |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| 2007        | 110                      |
| 2008        | 90                       |
| 2009        | 88                       |
| 2010        | 135                      |
| 2011        | 182                      |

Apesar cu nos a constata un aumento den registracion na nos Oficina, tin hopi obra cu ta wordo crea cu no ta yega serca nos. Djis pensa cuanto cancion ta wordo componi pa nos diferente festivalnan na Aruba. Esaki kiermeen cu ainda tin mas trabou riba e tereno aki pa conscientisa nos autornan di nan derecho.





# 2 homber a maltrata y a viola hobencita durante oranan di madrugada



Dialuna madrugada a drenta informe di un caso di violacion unda e abusadornan a maltrata e hobencita y despues a viole. Polis tin e caso serio aki bao investigacion. Tabata tin algun testigo cu a kere cu esey tabata un problema y/of pleito entre pareha y pesey nan no a mete. Pero ora nan a scucha zonido di golpinan fuerte y gritamento di auxilio nan a bay wak y a mira cu net e abusadornan a bay y e muhe a keda atras na yoramento tur traumatisa. Nos fotografo por a nota con traumatisa e victima tabata. Ta asina cu e 2 sospechosonan aki cu a comete e acto brutal aki a subi den un di e autonan BYD color geel y a bay den direccion zuid. Aparentemente e victima conoce un di nan y nan lo mester a bay na Lekker. Mirando con delicado e caso aki ta nos a limita e detayenan pa asina no dafia e investigacion.



## ***Mientras ku Parlamento no sa nada....***

# **Tin diskushon profundo riba nos VDC na Hulanda**

WILLEMSTAD. Miéntas miembronan de Tweede Kamer a haña informashon riba infiltrashon den nos VDC i otro problemanan den VDC Parlamentu di Kòrsou no tin niun informashon.

Hasta un karta na Minister Presidente Schotte pa liberá sr. Gumbs for di su obligashon di sekresia pa e por papia meskos ku e krisis manager a papia a tarda novèmber 2011 a haña kontesta te awor den aprel 2012.

E ta demostrá e falta di rèspèt ku sr. Schotte tin pa Parlamento i falta di seriedat pa atendé ku e tópiko asina importante manera VDC.

For di inisio di gabinete Schotte na òktober 2010 a start atake i distrushon di e aparato di inteligensia i di siguridat di Kòrsou.

Minister-Presidente nunca tabatin e desensia pa duna Parlamentu e rèspèt di in-

formá kiko ta pasando ku VDC.

Ora tur informashon ya tabata riba kaya Minister-Presidente a yama un reunion di lidernan di frakshon pa duna informashon ku ya tabata tur kaminda skonde.

Hasta por mira e reunion di lidernan di frakshon menshoná komo un intento pa sera boka di frakshon di PAR i evitá asina ku frakshon di PAR ta sigui señalá e bagamundarianan ku ta tumando lugá ku nos VDC.

# **PAR no tin ningun konfiansa den kuentanan di Schotte**

WILLEMSTAD. Frakshon di PAR ke pa Minister-Presidente sa ku ya nos no tin niun konfiansa mas den su historianan riba niun tema di gobernashon.

Ta p'e motibu aki mes frakshon di PAR a pidi e reunion públiko pa papia riba dokumentanan ku tin den Parlamentu ku

ta prueba ku for di un prinsipio, manera frakshon di PAR semper a esfera, ni Minister-Presidente ni algun otro di su kolegan minister no ta ministeriabel.

Frakshon di PAR durante di e reunion públiko menshoná lo ta kla i firme ku Minister-Presidente i su gabinete mester bai kas

## ***Na St. Maarten.....***

# **Manager di Robby's Lottery kondená na 12 luna kondishonal**

PHILIPSBURG - Siman pasa Huez den Promé Instansha Penal a kondená e manager dje ofisinan di number di Robbie's Lottery, Jacques de Castro (52), na 12 luna di kastigo di prizon kompletamente kondishonal.

E tin un periodo di prueba di dos aña durante kual e no mag tin problema ku hustisia.

E homber tabatin un arma di kandela ilegalmente den su eskritorio den su ofisina.

Jacques de Castro a haña un but di 1500 florin tambe.

Su abogadoan tabata Eldon 'Peppi' Sulvaran, kende ta representá Robbie dos Santos tambe den e kaso di konfiskashon di miones di doler na Merka i Jairo Bloem, kende ta praktiká na St. Maarten.

Nan a pretendé ku mester anulá e kargonan kontra Jacques de Castro pasobra nan a listra e ofisina ilegalmente.

Huez Monique Keppels no a aseptá e pretenshon aki pasobra e dokumentonan ku e abogadoan kier a mira ta dokumentonan ku tin di haber ku e kaso kontra Robbie dos Santos i su kompanianan Caribbean Investment Group Ltd. i Jamaroma Lotteries NV.

E hecho ku no a laga e abogadoan mira e dokumentonan aki no a violá derechi di nan kliente.

Den e kaso dje arma ta probá ku Jacques de Castro tabatin un arma

di kandela poderoso ku yama Jennings kaliber .380 ku bala kayente.

Esei tabata dia 12 di yuli aña pasá dia ku miembronan di RST a bishita sede di Robbie's Lottery den kuadro di un investigashon riba labamentu di plaka i evashon di belasting.

Esei tabata den kuadro di operashon "Bientu" ku a kuminsa na 2008. Nan a tene De Castro 10 dia pero no a akusé di un krimen finansiero.



# Aksidente ku herido ku hende pega awe mahinta



Awe mainta krusada di Eëgweg/ Edisonweg aksidente basta pisa ora 2 vehikulo pa falta duna preferensia a dal den otro. Un homber ku tabata kore den su mitusbishi Lancer a keda pega i Resque wagen a keda yama pa asina bai pa korta e porta pa personal ambulans i BW por a sake for di outo. A transporte pa poli pa tratamentu mediko. E otro Kabayero a hanja sla na kara i nanishi a basha sanger.

## Ruman ku ruman ta hinka otro

Den Fin siman pa ta esakto djasabra outoridatnan primeramente mester a bai Girbatar pa un kaso kaminda ruman ku ruman a hinka otro. Pero na Kaminda a kompronde ku un dje ruman nan ku a keda basta herida a lastra su mes i bai NAPA Autoparts riba Rooseveltweg ku pia i einan a bai buska ayudo. Ambulans ggd huntú ku Polis a dirigi nan mes einan. E ruman aki no kier a duna keho riba su ruman i polis tabata tin man mara pa detene e otro ruman ku a hasi su mes kulpabel.



## Proyecto “Siña pa Bo Biba” un biaha mas tabata un exito rotundo

Durante e siman cu a pasa Comision di Salud di Women's Club Aruba bou guia di Sra. Ruby Narain a organisa un anochi di informacion pa cu e conscientisacion di e malesa di pecho. E orador invita di exterior tabata Dr. Eleanor Walker, Directora di Breast Radiation Oncology di Henry Ford Health System y e dos oradornan local tabata Dr. Timothy Peterson, Cirujano y Dr. Guisela Croes, Consehero Spiritual. Mi presencia na e actividad aki na e prome luga tabata como miembro di WCA y miembro di e Comision di Salud di WCA.

Como vice presidente di Comision di Salud den parlamento mi participacion den e comision di Salud di WCA ta hopi valioso pa cu e motibo cu mi persona ta hopi preocupado pa cu e salud di nos



hende muhenan den nos comunidad. E informacion di cada un orador tabata hopi valioso pa cu e conscientisacion di e malesa y e parti di prevencion. Como un hende muhe hopi activo den nos comunidad mi ta consciente con importante e ta pa cuida mi salud. Ta conoci cu nos como hende muhe ta cuida nos famianan directo y indirecto y hopi

biaha ta negligisha nos mes. Si nos, como hende muhe no cuida nos mes, lo nos no tey den futuro pa cuida nos famianan y otro.

E ta importante pa haya informacion pa cu e malesanan cu ta afecta nos salud diariamente. Den pasado a toca e asunto di PIP implantenan unda e reaccion di nos hende muhenan tabata hopi positivo pa cu

control di nan pechonan. Ta conoci cu despues di malesanan di curason ta Cancer ta e di dos riba e lista di mortalidad di nos hende muhenan. Miedo ta hunga un rol grandi cerca nos hendenan, pero esey no mag di influencia nos decision pa busca atencion medico. Otro meta di e campaña aki ta pa motiva nos hende muhenan

pa busca atencion mas tempran posibel si mester ripara cualkier cambio na e pechonan. Mas nos tarda, mas grandi e problema ta bira. Pa cu e motibo aki e ta hopi importante pa cada un di nos siña con pa samina nos pechonan y pa haci esaki por lo menos un biaha pa luna. Ken mas cu bo mes conoce bo curpa miho? Diasabra cu a pasa e prome actividad pa siña samina bo pechonan pa detecta cancer di Pecho na tempo a tuma luga na IMSAN unda mas cu 100 hende muhe y algun hende homber a asisti. Diasabra awor e actividad aki ta sigui na Dr. Horacio Oduber Hospital y mi kier invita tur hende pa asisti na e actividad aki cu ta toca nos salud. E ora ta di 10'or di mainta te 2'or di merdia cu cooperacion di nos Dokternan femenino.

Segun MEP; AVP ta crea impresion cu gobierno ta mete den husticia

## Minister di Husticia a faya

E forma con miembronan di AVP ta andando publicamente cu e investigacion di e caso di Lotto, ta crea impresion cu nan ta metiendo den husticia. E conclusion aki ta basa riba diferente accion di parti di AVP, den ultimo lunanan, pero mas ainda e ultimo dianan.

### Mike Eman

Prome Minister di nos pais, un dia despues di detencion di un sospechoso a haya necesario di bay comenta riba e caso aki na radio den un programa live. Den dos aña y mei cu e ta minister presidente, NUNCA antes el a haci. Y pa colo aki no ta trata ni di un politico cu ta sospechoso, pero un simpel ciudadano. Ta riba TUR caso di detencion Mike Eman ta core bay radio duna su opinion? Como

Prome Minister di un pais e mester dedica su tempo y energia na bienestar di nos pais, pero pa e tuma tempo valioso di su dia pa bay radio comenta riba e caso aki, e mes ta crea e impresion cu e ta mete den husticia. Ademá, esaki ta sumamente irresponsabel.

### Melvin Tromp

E forma con e parlamentario aki pa dos aña y mey constantemente a keha cu husticia no ta firme suficiente pa cera ex personal di Lotto, ya caba a crea e impresion cu e ta pone presion riba Ministerio Publico. Pero su expresion cu na maart cosnan lo cambia, ta locual a caba di confirma cu e ta eherce presion riba Ministerio Publico. E forma con el a celebra y fiesta una bes cu siman pasa a detene un so-

spechoso a caba di segura cu Melvin Tromp ta crea e impresion cu e ta pone presion riba husticia, algo totalmente irresponsabel.

Asina tin mas parlamentario cu a crea e impresion aki, y lamentablemente nos Minister di Husticia ta morto na soño y no tin fin di nombra nos Procurador General y Abogado General pa caba. Pa colmo, nan ta warda e Procurador General baha cu pensioen, pa e ora detene un sospechoso cu nan tin dos aña ta investiga caba. No tin ningun logica, y e falta di logica aki, combina cu e actitud di politiconan irresponsabel di AVP, ta pone cu henter nos comunidad ta biba cu e impresion cu AVP ta mete den husticia, algo cu ta sumamente irresponsabel.

Den tur esaki Minister di Husticia a fada. E ta un hurista, y como tal e mester a hala atencion di su coleganan cu ta mancha Ministerio Publico. Como Minister di Husticia e mester percura pa no tin ningun duda riba funcionamiento di Ministerio Publico. Pero lamentablemente e no a actua y a laga su mesun coleganan mancha Ministerio Publico.

Tanten e mes ta laga tur posibilidad pa hende pensa cu AVP ta mete den husticia. Esaki ta algo di condena, sigur biniendo di un prome minister y representantenan di pueblo. Nan mes ta trece nos estado di derecho den peligro, y nan no sa ainda cuanto daño esey ta haci na e institucion asina importante cu ta Ministerio Publico.





## Bautismo di Go Fast Cycling Team su uniform nobo tabata exitoso

Diabierna ultimo e representante di Go Fast Energy Drink, Mirian James-Webb di Aruba Trading Company y Omar Tromp di Go Fast Cycling Team a pop-up un bleki di Go Fast Energy Drink y laga e energia di e sports drink adrenalina e jersey cora, preto y blanco di e team.

Aruba Trading t'e distribudor oficial di e marca Go Fast Energy Drink, e bebida energetico cu ta sponsor di e team di ciclismo Go Fast Cycling Team.

Go Fast! Cycling Team anteriormente yama Underground Cycling Team a haci su debut den e deporte di ciclismo na maart 2010, competiendo den e disciplina di Road Bike y Mountain Bike na Aruba y den exterior.

E equipo ta consisti di core-dornan cu ta practica e deporte aki den forma competitivo y recreativo y un team di support pa sostene e team durante careda y training.

E miembronan di e team ta: George Winterdal; Victor Vrolijk; Jean-Carlos Ras; Ignar Bareño;

Michel Roos; Joel Dirks; Renze Postma; Omar Tromp; Tierre Tromp; Zaida Everon; Oscar Bislip; Alvin Lacle; Mervin Thiel; Saskia, Sandra y Anno Postma.

Meta di e team ta demostra e placer di practica e deporte di ciclismo, e satisfaccion di teamwork, e adrenaline-rush di competencia, y e balor di amistad dor di profila e team cu un actitud positivo y cu logronan grandi, y asina inspira personanan di tur edad y habilidad pa entusiasma p'e deporte aki y di e manera aki aporta na eleva e deporte di ciclismo competitivo na Aruba.

E temporada di ciclismo 2012 a cuminsa. E prome careda di aña, Mountain Bike drie-daagse na januari y Classico Ciclismo Himno y Bandera 18 Maart a resulta victorioso pa Go Fast! Cycling Team. Cu un bista riba e caredanan pendiente p'e temporada 2012, Go Fast! Cycling Team ta spera di por sigui competi fuertemente pa logra retene titulonnan obteni den pasado y logra titulo nobo pa aña 2012 p'e team.



Aruba Trading Company kier a gradici tur miembro nan di prensa

y e fans pa nan presencia durante bautismo di e uniformnan nobo di Go Fast! Cycling Team.

# Studiantenan den fase final pa bai studia den exterior

Manera tur aña nos estudiantenan cu ta den e parti final di nan estudio aki na nos isla ta prepara pa hasi examennan final pa despues sigui nan estudio avansa den exterior, sea na Hulanda, Merca of den paisnan Latino.

Mas di dos cien studiantenan lo bini na remarke pa haya un fianza pa nan studia den exterior y un gran parti lo hasi uso di esaki y otronan lo keda studia aki na nos Universidad di Aruba, nan

estudio avansa.

Lo bai tin di parti di departamento di gobierno cu ta encarga cu educacion, hopi informacionan y anochi informativo pa mayoran y naturalmente lo haya hopi informacionnan valido pa e studiantenan cu ta bai den exterior.

E pregunta clave cu ta bini manera ta e casi di hopi tempo caba, si esnan cu ta bai studia pa medicina na Costa Rica, Colombia entre otro lo haya

nan reconocimiento na final di nan carera y si e cuestion cu tanto e parlamentario, Andin Bikker ta boga pe cu ta reconocemento di e diplomanan aki y cu no mester bai extra añ pa Hulanda of Spaña pa por haya reconocimiento pa nan diploma di dokter.

Gobierno lo mester traha hunto cu parlamento hopi duro riba e cuestion aki y otronan cu tin nos hoben dokterman cu a y ta caba pronto nan man mara y cu mas gasto pa nan mayornan finan-

cieramente.

Aki dos luna y mei y studiantenan aki lo bandona nos isla pa un mihor futuro y ta di spera cu gobierno y parlamento hasi nan debi trabao pa alivia e situacionnan aki.

Na e studiantenan tur clase di exito cu nan examen final y den nan preparacion di nan bida no den exterior, cu ta un bida di adulto, duro, pero cu ta hasinan mas responsabel.

## SIMAR a honra su ex presidentenan cu un “Galeria di Honor”

Diasabra anochi a tuma luga desvelo di e potretnan di e ex presidente nan di SIMAR. Robyn Ann Didier actual presidente di SIMAR a honra un total di 12 presidente cu a dedica hopi tempo na SIMAR.

Como prome homenahe tabata Sr. Ing. Cesare Terzano (dfm) cu ta prome

presidente e tempo ey di VLA, Vakbond van Leerkrachten Aruba cu actualmente nos conoce como SIMAR.

E di 2 presidente di SIMAR tabata Sr. Eddy Croes. Sr. Croes a percura pa posicion huridico di nos maestronan. A sigui cu Sr. Buchi Herrerra, Frank Zaandam. Como di 5 presi-

dente y e prome hende muhe como presidente di SIMAR ta Sra. Madonna Stephens.

Despues a sigui cu Sr. Armand Hessels, e di 7 presidente y di 2 hende muhe ta Sra. Burny Every (dfm). Di 8 presidente tabata sr. Jorge “Chando” Pietersz. Sigui pa Sr. Harry Op-

laat como di 9 presidente. Tempo SIMAR a cumpli 25 aña di existencia Sr. Jaime Mata tabata presidente. Como penultimo presidente di SIMAR ta Sr. Hugo

van Varsseveld. Y a finalisa e homenahe cu e ultimo presidente Sr. Ivo Valdez y tabata presidente tempo SIMAR a cumpli 40 aña di existencia.







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*Melvin Jones*



# Sport



## Metta World Peace ejected for elbow

LOS ANGELES -- Metta World Peace was ejected from the Los Angeles Lakers' 114-106 double overtime win over the Oklahoma City Thunder on Sunday after receiving a flagrant foul 2 for hitting James Harden in the head with his elbow.

World Peace threw down a dunk to draw the Lakers to within one, 48-47, with 1:39 remaining in the second quarter. As he made his way back up the court, World Peace started to beat his chest in celebration before striking Harden, who was behind him, in the back of the head with his left elbow, causing the Oklahoma City guard to fall to the floor.

Harden stayed down and play was stopped for several minutes while the referees separated Lakers and Thunder players who were arguing and the flagrant 2 determination was only made after the collision was reviewed on a video monitor at center court.

Harden, who had 14 points, did not return to the court in the second quarter. Harden was diagnosed with a concussion, according to the Thunder. He will fly back with the team to Oklahoma City and his status for the Thunder's final two regular season games is uncertain.

Harden was the first player to leave Oklahoma City's locker room after the game and did not address the media.

World Peace issued a statement to reporters in the locker room after the game, but did not entertain any questions.

"During that play I just dunked on (Kevin) Durant and (Serge) Ibaka and I got really emotional and excited and it was unfortunate that James had to get hit with an unintentional elbow," World Peace said. "I hope he's OK. The Thunder, they're playing for a championship this year, so I hope that he's OK and I apologize to the Thunder and to James Harden.

"You know, it was such a great game and it was unfortunate so much emotion was going on at that time. ... That's it for today."

World Peace appeared to plead to an official that his elbow was inadvertent and only a result of his chest-thumping celebration motion.

"I saw it happened and it was a very hard hit," Ibaka said. " ... That's the first I've seen anything like that happen live. I was surprised. I went up to him to ask him why he did that and he wanted to fight me too. I don't know what he was thinking. I have no idea."

World Peace later ad-

dressed the foul on Twitter.

"Hope James Hardin (sic) is ok....," World Peace wrote. "I remember when I hit by Marc Gasol the same way.. I was spitting up blood and a headache during the game..."

"I just watched the replay again..... Oooo.. My celebration of the dunk really was too much... Didn't even see James ..... Omg... Looks bad," he tweeted.

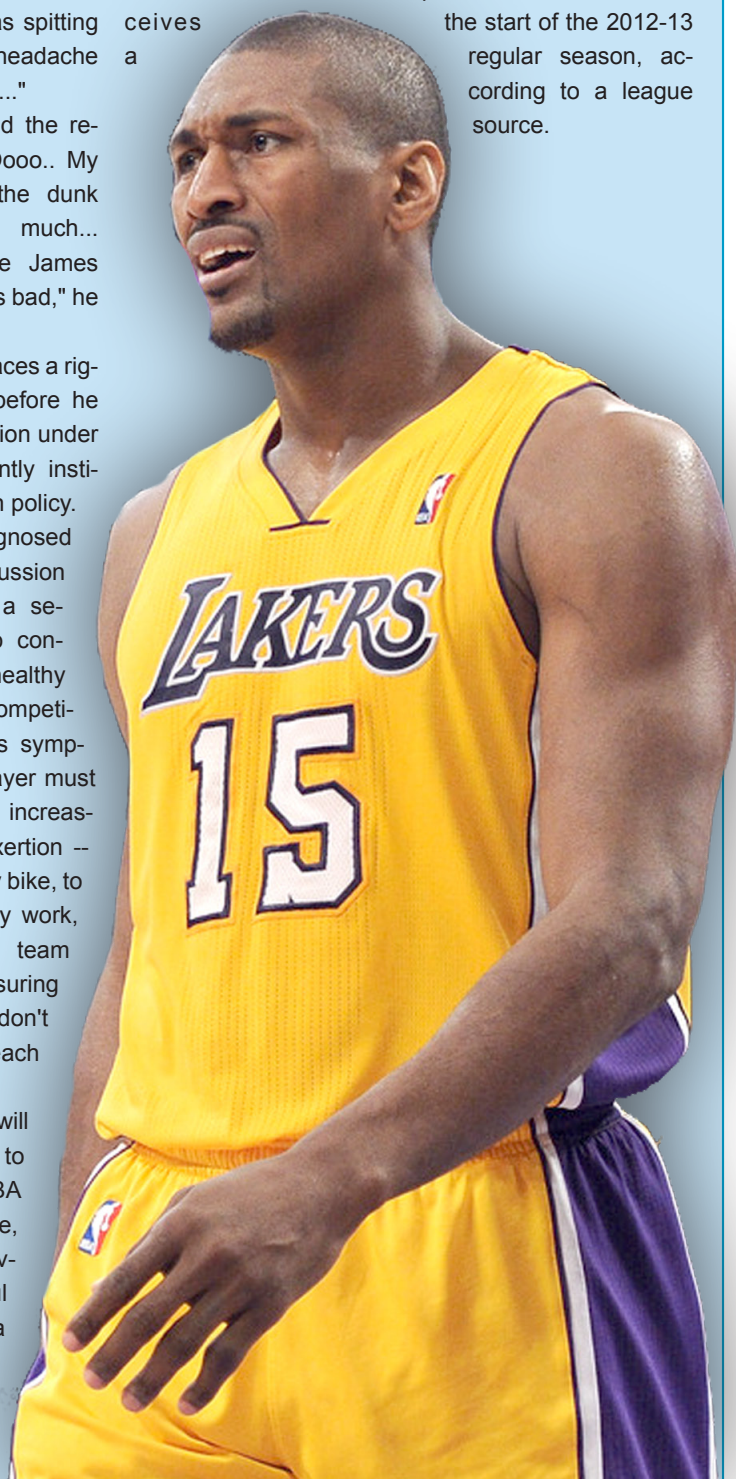
Harden now faces a rigorous process before he can return to action under the NBA's recently instituted concussion policy.

A player diagnosed with a concussion must complete a series of steps to confirm that he's healthy enough for competition. Once he is symptom free, the player must make it through increasing stages of exertion -- from a stationary bike, to jogging, to agility work, to non-contact team drills -- while ensuring the symptoms don't return after each one.

World Peace will however have to deal with the NBA league office, which reviews every flagrant foul to determine if a suspension is warranted. The Lakers

have one game remaining in the regular season Thursday in Sacramento before the playoffs begin next weekend. If World Peace receives a

multigame suspension for the act, he will serve the first game against the Kings and any subsequent games in this year's postseason, rather than at the start of the 2012-13 regular season, according to a league source.





# Without Dwyane Wade, Chris Bosh, Heat dash Rockets' postseason hopes

MIAMI -- As LeBron James was walking to Miami's home bench for the final time this regular season, he raised his left arm to acknowledge the roars of another sold-out crowd. And when the obligatory "M-V-P" chants started up, James waved again.

He'll be back next weekend, with bigger goals in mind.

James finished with 32 points and eight rebounds, Norris Cole added 16 points and the Heat pulled away in the final minutes to beat Houston 97-88 on Sunday night and eliminate the Rockets from postseason contention.

"It's very humbling, honestly," James said. "The fans have been amazing this year and they're going to continue to be amazing going into the postseason. ... It's humbling."

Mike Miller scored 11 for injury-depleted Miami, which still has a mathematical chance of catching Chicago for the No. 1 seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs. Joel Anthony added 11 for the Heat on 5-for-5 shooting.

But James controlled the game, especially late as Miami needed a 31-19 fourth quarter to win its regular-season home finale. The Heat played without starters Dwyane Wade (dislocated left index finger), Chris Bosh (leg muscle fatigue) and Mario Chalmers (flu-like symptoms). Backup center Ronny Turiaf missed his seventh straight game while recovering from a hamstring problem.

On this night, they could relax and enjoy.

"I think LeBron is having a historic season," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said.

Chandler Parsons scored a career-high 23 for Houston, which led by as many as 13 in the first half. Parsons tied the game at 83 with a layup late in the fourth, before James' 3-pointer sparked

an 8-0 run that put Miami in control.

Goran Dragic scored 16, while Courtney Lee and Patrick Patterson had 14 apiece for the Rockets. Luis Scola scored 12.

"We had chances," Rockets coach Kevin McHale said. "The game was kind of in the balance at 83-all. They got some separation. LeBron is a hell of a player."

Houston missed the playoffs for the third straight year, even though it won't finish below .500 in any of them.

"Failure is a horrible word, I don't like it and I don't consider it a failure," Scola said. "Our goal was to make the playoffs and we are hurt because we couldn't qualify. But a failure? No, I don't see it that way."

It's unclear if Wade -- who after getting hurt on Saturday said he will be ready for Game 1 of the playoffs next weekend -- will play in either of Miami's two remaining regular-season games, at Boston on Tuesday and at Washington on Thursday.

Miami would like to have Bosh and Turiaf back for at least a portion of that road trip, and Chalmers is listed as day to day. He was a late scratch from Miami's starting lineup on Sunday.

And for that matter, James -- who sat out Saturday's loss to rest, though said it wasn't exactly a refreshing one-day break -- might not play again before the postseason starts, either, saying he would like some rest, although Spoelstra said he'll evaluate the who-plays-and-who-doesn't issue daily.

So it was yet another pieced-



together starting lineup that Miami sent to open the game, the 16th different one for the Heat this season -- and their seventh in their last seven games.

And things didn't start well.

The Heat missed their first six shots and trailed 23-10 after Scola made a hook shot with 3:54 left in the opening quarter. Houston's lead was still double digits at 38-28 with 6:59 remaining until halftime, before Miami used a 17-6 run to take a one-point lead at intermission. Miller's 3-pointer with 25 seconds left gave the Heat their first -- and only -- lead of the half, 45-44.

Parsons had his second-best scoring quarter of the season in the third, finishing with 12 of Houston's 25 as the Rockets took a 69-66 lead into the fourth. Back and forth it went, the game being tied on four separate occasions in the final quarter, the last of those coming when Parsons drove on James for a layup and his 23rd point, setting the season best for the rookie.

"Fortunately, I hit shots," Parsons said. "My teammates got me open. I just hate losing so at the end it doesn't matter how well

I played. A loss is a loss."

Playing back in his home state for the first time as a pro, Parsons finished 10 for 13 from the floor. He spent four seasons at Florida, appearing in 142 games and averaging 10.2 points before the Rockets grabbed him in the second round of last year's draft.

"It was great," Parsons said. "I had a lot of family and friends here. You always want to play well for them but at the end of the day you want to get the win. It was a good learning experience and it's exciting to be back in Florida."

After that last tie, James took aim from the left wing and hit a 3-pointer over Parsons to put Miami up for good. And following a steal by Shane Battier, Miller added another 3 from the right corner 24 seconds later to give the Heat what was then their biggest lead at 89-83.

"Those are the kind of wins that coaches like, when there's segments of the game where it's just tough and ugly," Spoelstra said. "We went through a few spells offensively where the ball was just not going in and we stayed in it mentally."

# Lakers rally for 2OT win after Metta World Peace ejected for vicious elbow

LOS ANGELES -- Metta World Peace was subdued and contrite in the Los Angeles Lakers' locker room, apologizing to Oklahoma City's James Harden for throwing the elbow that sent them both to the locker room in the second quarter and left Harden with a concussion.

They both missed a beauty of a game that could echo into the postseason for two division leaders.

Kobe Bryant scored six of his 26 points in the second overtime alongside an unorthodox Lakers lineup, and Los Angeles rallied from an 18-point deficit in the second half for a 114-106 victory over the Thunder on Sunday.

Pau Gasol had 20 points, 14 rebounds and nine assists for the Lakers, who made an impressive comeback in their regular-season home finale against off-target Thunder stars Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook, who combined to miss 42 of their 56 shots. Los Angeles' rally stunned the Thunder and set an early tone for their possible second-round playoff matchup.

"It's not so much that we beat Oklahoma, but how we did it," said Bryant, who shook off his own woeful shooting game with two key 3-pointers late in regulation. "In the playoffs, particularly if you don't have home-court advantage, you're going to have games like this. We have to have the poise and the confidence to just keep chipping away."

Yet everything after halftime was colored by the drama and violence that occurred 1:37 before the break.

World Peace had just dunked over Durant and Serge Ibaka on a fast break and was headed back upcourt when he ran into Harden. While pounding his chest with his right arm, World

Peace raised his left elbow over Harden's shoulder and cleanly hit Harden in the back of the skull.

Harden dropped to the court and stayed down for about a minute before heading to the locker room. Ibaka and other Thunder players challenged World Peace, but were kept apart, and World Peace was ejected after officials reviewed the tape. "I got real emotional and excited, and it was unfortunate that James had to get hit with the unintentional elbow," said World Peace, who had scored 12 points and played solid defense on Durant. "I hope he's OK. Oklahoma, they're playing for a championship this year. I apologize to the Thunder and James Harden. It was just unfortunate."

Later, World Peace took to Twitter to share his thoughts and expressed remorse over the incident.

"I just watched the replay again..... Oooo.. My celebration of the dunk really was too much... Didn't even see James ..... Omg... Looks bad," World Peace tweeted.

The Thunder initially declined to disclose Harden's condition, but later confirmed the concussion. Harden, who scored 14 points, now faces a rigorous process before he can return to action under the NBA's recently instituted concussion policy.

If a player is diagnosed with a concussion, he will have to complete a series of steps to confirm that he's healthy enough for competition. Once he is symptom free, the player must make it through increasing stages of exertion -- from a stationary bike, to jogging, to agility work, to non-contact team drills -- while ensuring the symptoms don't re-



turn after each one.

Bryant and other Lakers acknowledged World Peace is likely to face a multigame suspension with just one game left in their regular season.

"I can't speculate (how many games)," Bryant said. "I'm sure he'll have some type of a suspension. And James, I hope he's OK. I haven't heard anything about how he's doing, but he's one of my favorite players in the league, one of my young boys, so I hope he's doing all right."

"I'm just happy my teammate is all right," said Durant, who scored 35 points on 11-for-34 shooting. "It was a bad play. Hopefully Ron didn't do it intentionally or have any malicious intentions on that. We've got to

move past that."

Ibaka had 18 points and 14 rebounds for the Thunder, who led by 11 points with 4 minutes left in regulation. Westbrook had 14 points on 3-for-22 shooting and 10 assists as Oklahoma City fell a full game behind San Antonio atop the Western Conference with just its third loss in nine games.

Despite the loss, Durant finally passed Bryant in the race for both superstars' third NBA scoring title. Durant, the two-time defending scoring champion, is averaging 27.906 points with two to play, while Bryant -- the NBA's top scorer for nearly the entire regular season -- slipped back into second at 27.862 points per game with just one game left.



# Rangers bunt for go-ahead run on missed call in 11th, drop Tigers

DETROIT -- Alberto Gonzalez squared to bunt, hoping to drive in the go-ahead run on a squeeze play. The ball hit his bat and glanced off his right leg before bouncing off the ground and out toward the pitcher.

Then the Texas Rangers caught a break.

Instead of being called a foul ball, Gonzalez's bunt went for an RBI infield single in the 11th inning, lifting the Rangers to a 3-2 victory over the Detroit Tigers. Gonzalez admitted after the game the ball hit him around the knee -- and a replay confirmed that -- but the play stood. "As soon as he hit the ball and saw the ball was fair, he didn't stop himself," Gonzalez's translator said. "He was trying to go to first base. He knew the job was done."

The bases were loaded with nobody out when Gonzalez bunted. Right-hander Thad Weber (0-1), who was making his major league debut, had no play at the plate on runner Nelson Cruz. Weber froze with the ball, and first baseman Miguel Cabrera struggled to get back to the bag in time. Everybody was safe, and Texas took the lead.

Detroit manager Jim Leyland came out to argue, but to no avail.

"I saw just what it did: The ball came down and hit him on the back knee. Clearly. Clearly. That's not even a question," Leyland said. "The ball clearly hit him, and four guys hap-

pened to miss it. That's part of the game.

Plate umpire Tim Welke had a chance to watch the replay afterward and said the ball did in fact hit Gonzalez, but his crew hadn't seen that initially.

"We did not see the ball hit anybody on the field," Welke said. "We called what we saw."

Gonzalez appeared to be in the batter's box still when the ball hit him, meaning it would have almost certainly been ruled a foul ball if an umpire had seen the contact.

Robbie Ross (3-0) pitched a scoreless 10th for Texas, and Joe Nathan finished for his fourth save.

Josh Hamilton homered for the Rangers.

The Tigers led 2-1 in the eighth -- with rookie starter Drew Smyly in line for his first career win. But Texas tied it when Elvis Andrus drew a walk, went to second on a wild pitch and took third when catcher Alex Avila's throw to second went into the outfield for an error.

Hamilton hit a sacrifice fly to even the score.

Weber, who was called up from the minors in between games of Saturday's doubleheader, made his major league debut in the 11th. He walked Cruz and allowed singles to Mike Napoli and Yorvit Torrealba, setting up Gonzalez's at-bat with the bases loaded.

"Bases loaded, nobody out and the right person in the batter's box. The guy



who was in the batter's box is one of the guys I do my fundamental stuff with," Texas manager Ron Washington said. "I had warned him that if this situation came up, look for the squeeze on the first pitch."

Weber then got out of the inning without any further damage by getting pinch-hitter Mitch Moreland to hit into a double play and Ian Kinsler to ground out.

Smyly pitched six innings, allowing a run and five hits with two walks and seven strikeouts, but

he had to settle for his third straight no-decision. He's allowed only two earned runs in 16 innings on the season.

Texas starter Colby Lewis allowed two runs and seven hits in seven innings. Hamilton gave Texas a 1-0 lead in the first with his seventh homer of the year, and Michael Young followed with a single to extend his hitting streak to 10 games. But Smyly settled in nicely after that.

Detroit tied it in the third when Ramon Santiago hit

a leadoff triple and eventually scored on a two-out wild pitch.

In the sixth, Hamilton hit a single and went to second on a groundout. He then took third when -- after one of Smyly's pitches -- catcher Avila's throw went over the southpaw for an error.

Smyly recovered, striking out Cruz and retiring Napoli on a flyball to end the threat.

Brennan Boesch hit a tiebreaking solo homer in the sixth, but Detroit couldn't hold on.

# Roger Clemens trial resumes in D.C.

WASHINGTON -- The Roger Clemens perjury retrial resumed Monday with a debate over evidence before moving to the final phase of seating a jury.

Last week, the jury pool was narrowed to 36, from which the 12 jurors and four alternates are to be picked Monday, followed by opening statements.

Clemens arrived in court with his wife, Debbie, who had not been al-

lowed to attend his first trial during jury selection because she was to be a witness in her husband's defense.

Wearing a pinstriped suit, white shirt and silver-striped tie, the seven-time Cy Young Award winner took notes as his lawyers, the prosecutors and judge debated what evidence could be introduced.

The legendary pitcher is accused of lying to Congress in 2008,

when the baseball star testified that he never took steroids or human growth hormone.

On Monday, U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton considered whether the defense can challenge the legitimacy of the congressional hearings. He said that if that happened, "it opens up the door to a lot of information that would not otherwise come into evidence" from the government, including other players who admitted using performance-enhancing drugs.

He said he didn't want to force the government to fight with "one hand behind their back."

Hardin said it was premature for Walton to rule until Hardin raised questions about the hearings. Hardin also said he wasn't challenging the legitimacy of the hearings, only their focus on Clemens' drug use, which he called a "show trial." Walton deferred a ruling on the matter.

Walton hopes to get to the first witness in the case Tuesday.



## MLB Standing

| EAST        | W  | L  | PCT  | GB  | HOME | ROAD |
|-------------|----|----|------|-----|------|------|
| NY Yankee   | 9  | 6  | .600 | -   | 4-3  | 5-3  |
| Toronto     | 9  | 6  | .600 | -   | 4-5  | 5-1  |
| Baltimore   | 9  | 7  | .563 | .5  | 3-3  | 6-4  |
| Tampa Bay   | 9  | 7  | .563 | .5  | 5-1  | 4-6  |
| Boston      | 4  | 10 | .286 | 4.5 | 3-5  | 1-5  |
| CENTRAL     | W  | L  | PCT  | GB  | HOME | ROAD |
| Detroit     | 10 | 6  | .625 | -   | 6-4  | 4-2  |
| Chicago Sox | 9  | 6  | .600 | .5  | 3-4  | 6-2  |
| Cleveland   | 8  | 6  | .571 | 1   | 1-4  | 7-2  |
| Minnesota   | 5  | 11 | .313 | 5   | 2-4  | 3-7  |
| Kansas City | 3  | 12 | .200 | 6.5 | 0-9  | 3-3  |
| WEST        | W  | L  | PCT  | GB  | HOME | ROAD |
| Texas       | 13 | 3  | .813 | -   | 5-2  | 8-1  |
| Oakland     | 8  | 9  | .471 | 5.5 | 4-6  | 4-3  |
| Seattle     | 7  | 10 | .412 | 6.5 | 3-6  | 4-4  |
| LA Angel    | 6  | 10 | .375 | 7   | 4-6  | 2-4  |



| EAST          | W  | L  | PCT  | GB  | HOME | ROAD |
|---------------|----|----|------|-----|------|------|
| Washington    | 12 | 4  | .750 | -   | 8-2  | 4-2  |
| Atlanta       | 10 | 6  | .625 | 2   | 5-1  | 5-5  |
| NY Mets       | 8  | 6  | .571 | 3   | 5-3  | 3-3  |
| Miami         | 7  | 8  | .467 | 4.5 | 5-2  | 2-6  |
| Philadelphia  | 7  | 9  | .438 | 5   | 3-3  | 4-6  |
| CENTRAL       | W  | L  | PCT  | GB  | HOME | ROAD |
| St. Louis     | 11 | 5  | .688 | -   | 4-2  | 7-3  |
| Milwaukee     | 7  | 9  | .438 | 4   | 4-5  | 3-4  |
| Cincinnati    | 7  | 9  | .438 | 4   | 3-3  | 4-6  |
| Pittsburgh    | 6  | 9  | .400 | 4.5 | 3-3  | 3-6  |
| Houston       | 6  | 10 | .375 | 5   | 4-5  | 2-5  |
| Chicago Cubs  | 4  | 12 | .250 | 7   | 3-7  | 1-5  |
| WEST          | W  | L  | PCT  | GB  | HOME | ROAD |
| LA Dodgers    | 12 | 4  | .750 | -   | 6-0  | 6-4  |
| Colorado      | 8  | 7  | .533 | 3.5 | 5-4  | 3-3  |
| Arizona       | 8  | 8  | .500 | 4   | 5-5  | 3-3  |
| San Francisco | 7  | 7  | .500 | 4   | 4-2  | 3-5  |
| San Diego     | 5  | 12 | .294 | 7.5 | 4-7  | 1-5  |







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# Daniel Bard to bullpen temporarily

Boston manager Bobby Valentine told reporters Sunday that Daniel Bard will be taken out of the starting rotation and will be pitching out of the Red Sox's beleaguered bullpen, for the time being, at least.

There were logistical and performance-driven reasons for Valentine's decision, which was announced after the Red Sox's ESPN Sunday Night game against the New York Yankees was rained out at Fenway Park.

First, Bard lost his scheduled start Sunday night to Mother Nature. So Valentine, not wanting to back up everyone in the staff an extra day, opted to skip Bard's spot this time through the rotation and pitch Jon Lester Monday night in the road trip opener in Minnesota, as previously scheduled. That also will keep Josh Beckett, Clay Buchholz and Felix Doubront in line for their regularly scheduled starts. Lester and Beckett will be pitching with

an extra day of rest, while Buchholz and Doubront will be on normal rest.

It's not unusual for a team to skip a fourth or fifth starter, especially early in the season because of rainout weather, but there was a dual purpose for the move.

Namely, that the Red Sox's bullpen also happens to be the worst

the majors.

This is where the move seems to make the most sense for the team, especially right now, and possibly for the rest of the season.

While the Red Sox committed to Bard as a starter in the off-season despite the fact he had been relatively solid in

three seasons as closer—Jonathan Papelbon's setup man, Boston's bullpen is last among the 30 teams in the majors in ERA (8.44 --

40 earned runs in 42 2/3 innings), home runs al-

lowed (11), hits allowed (60) and batting average against (.335) this young season.

Clearly, the bullpen has been in need of help all year, with the cry for help reaching a crescendo after the meltdown Saturday, when the relievers

were torched for 14 runs in 1 2/3 innings in turning a 9-1 laughter into a 15-9 loss to the Yankees.

In Bard, Valentine would have someone he could count on to get him some outs. And the Red Sox have an easy solution to plug the

right-hander's hole in the rotation. They can simply promote Aaron Cook from Pawtucket. The veteran right-hander has a May 1 opt-out clause and is 2-0 with a 1.35 ERA in three starts for the PawSox.

"We had an off-day already this week, this would make two in between starts for all of the starters," Valentine said. "Daniel will be skipped this time around. Tomorrow's starter (Lester) flew out at 6:30 (a.m.) today and he'll be one of the rested. Daniel will have an opportunity to pitch either in a bullpen session or out of the bullpen (in Minnesota) in the next couple of days. This isn't one of the easy decisions, but it has to be made and that's how we made it."

Valentine would not commit to the idea of keeping Bard in the bullpen for a long period of time. As a starter, Bard is 0-2 with a 4.63 ERA, but in his second start he suffered a 1-0 loss.



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# Mark Cuban blasts Olympic setup



CHICAGO -- Mark Cuban railing against the U.S. Olympic Committee profiting off the NBA stars he and other owners pay millions is nothing new.

The Dallas Mavericks owner took his chronic rant to Chicago over the weekend where his defending champions were playing the championship-contending Bulls. Before the game, Cuban was asked if he believes Team USA is in shambles on the heels of key injuries and two NBA stars recently suggesting players should be paid just months before the start of the 2012 Games in London. "I hope so," Cuban said. "And you can quote me on that."

"I think it's the biggest mistake the NBA makes," Cuban said of allowing NBA stars to compete in international competition. "If you look up stupid in the dictionary you see a picture of the USA Dream Team playing for free for corporate America so the U.S. Olympic Committee can make billions of dollars. So if you come up with something that you own that you can give to me for free so I can make billions of dollars, I want it."

"And it has nothing to do with patriotism and it's all about money. You don't see the (International) Olympic Committee in Switzerland saying, 'Oh, we made so much money, let's give it to people.' How many jets do they have?"

Back in January, Cuban said he has gotten nowhere in convincing the NBA to get out of Olympic competition.

"The commissioner's office won't

open it up to discussion. They just make a unilateral call," Cuban said then. "They'll take calls about it, but won't put it up for a vote. Hopefully, I can get him to move it to a vote at some point."

The topic was raised this time after Dwyane Wade and Ray Allen were criticized for suggesting that Olympic athletes should be paid.

Cuban said he would have no problem allowing NBA stars to play in the Olympics if corporatism didn't rule the process.

"If they weren't making all kinds of money," Cuban said, "I'd be fine with it because then it's truly for the right reasons."

In his latest rant, Cuban said if that were the case then multibillion-dollar network and cable television rights should be stripped and the Olympics offered on television as part of the public domain.

"It's like when the president gives a speech, it's public domain, anybody who wants to put it out there can put it out there," Cuban said. "If you want to make this really about patriotism, you make it public domain. Look, if you don't have cable, you're not going to see a lot of what you're supposed to be so patriotic about."

Cuban said he would prefer to see the U.S. Olympic basketball roster filled out the way it used to be, with youngsters.

"I think just 22-and-under and I'm fine with that," Cuban said. "Develop it, get international experience, represent your country, that's all good."

Mavs point guard Jason Kidd was a member of the gold-medal-winning U.S. Olympic team in 2008. No Mavs players will suit up for Team USA or any other country's national team in London. Dirk Nowitzki played for Germany last summer as it unsuccessfully attempted to qualify for a second consecutive Olympic berth.

However, Nowitzki's participa-

tion in last summer's Olympic qualifier also underscores the point made consistently by Cuban, who pays Nowitzki \$19 million this season. Nowitzki got off to a slow start this season while dealing with a right knee issue that he attributed to playing internationally over the summer, which then skewed his training regimen during the lock-out-extended offseason.

Nowitzki missed four games in

late January to work on strengthening his knee.

Cuban never publicly criticized Nowitzki for representing his country or the Olympic process as a whole at the time, but that didn't mean he wasn't frustrated.

"I was going nuts, trust me," Cuban said. "I said, 'Are you kidding me?' But, I don't have the right to stop him."



## NBA Standing

| EASTERN                        | W  | L  | PCT  | GB   | HOME  | ROAD  |
|--------------------------------|----|----|------|------|-------|-------|
| 1 y - <a href="#">Chicago</a>  | 48 | 16 | .750 | -    | 25-7  | 23-9  |
| 2 y - <a href="#">Miami</a>    | 46 | 18 | .719 | 2    | 28-5  | 18-13 |
| 3 x - <a href="#">Indiana</a>  | 41 | 23 | .641 | 7    | 22-9  | 19-14 |
| 4 y - <a href="#">Boston</a>   | 37 | 27 | .578 | 11   | 22-9  | 15-18 |
| 5 x - <a href="#">Atlanta</a>  | 38 | 26 | .594 | 10   | 21-10 | 17-16 |
| 6 x - <a href="#">Orlando</a>  | 36 | 28 | .563 | 12   | 20-12 | 16-16 |
| 7 x - <a href="#">New York</a> | 34 | 30 | .531 | 14   | 21-11 | 13-19 |
| 8 <a href="#">Philadelphia</a> | 33 | 30 | .524 | 14 ½ | 19-14 | 14-16 |

|                            |    |    |      |      |       |       |
|----------------------------|----|----|------|------|-------|-------|
| <a href="#">Milwaukee</a>  | 30 | 33 | .476 | 17 ½ | 16-15 | 14-18 |
| <a href="#">Detroit</a>    | 24 | 40 | .375 | 24   | 17-15 | 7-25  |
| <a href="#">New Jersey</a> | 22 | 42 | .344 | 26   | 9-23  | 13-19 |
| <a href="#">Toronto</a>    | 22 | 42 | .344 | 26   | 12-20 | 10-22 |
| <a href="#">Cleveland</a>  | 21 | 42 | .333 | 26 ½ | 11-21 | 10-21 |
| <a href="#">Washington</a> | 17 | 46 | .270 | 30 ½ | 9-22  | 8-24  |
| <a href="#">Charlotte</a>  | 7  | 56 | .111 | 40 ½ | 4-28  | 3-28  |



| WESTERN                             | W  | L  | PCT  | GB   | HOME  | ROAD  |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|------|------|-------|-------|
| 1 y - <a href="#">San Antonio</a>   | 47 | 16 | .746 | -    | 27-5  | 20-11 |
| 2 y - <a href="#">Oklahoma City</a> | 46 | 18 | .719 | 1 ½  | 25-6  | 21-12 |
| 3 x - <a href="#">LA Lakers</a>     | 41 | 24 | .631 | 7    | 26-7  | 15-17 |
| 4 x - <a href="#">LA Clippers</a>   | 40 | 24 | .625 | 7 ½  | 24-9  | 16-15 |
| 5 x - <a href="#">Memphis</a>       | 39 | 25 | .609 | 8 ½  | 24-7  | 15-18 |
| 6 x - <a href="#">Denver</a>        | 36 | 28 | .563 | 11 ½ | 20-13 | 16-15 |
| 7 x - <a href="#">Dallas</a>        | 36 | 29 | .554 | 12   | 23-10 | 13-19 |
| 8 <a href="#">Utah</a>              | 34 | 30 | .531 | 13 ½ | 23-8  | 11-22 |

|                              |    |    |      |      |       |       |
|------------------------------|----|----|------|------|-------|-------|
| <a href="#">Phoenix</a>      | 33 | 31 | .516 | 14 ½ | 19-13 | 14-18 |
| <a href="#">Houston</a>      | 33 | 32 | .508 | 15   | 21-11 | 12-21 |
| <a href="#">Portland</a>     | 28 | 36 | .438 | 19 ½ | 20-13 | 8-23  |
| <a href="#">Minnesota</a>    | 26 | 39 | .400 | 22   | 13-19 | 13-20 |
| <a href="#">Golden State</a> | 23 | 41 | .359 | 24 ½ | 12-19 | 11-22 |
| <a href="#">Sacramento</a>   | 21 | 43 | .328 | 26 ½ | 15-17 | 6-26  |
| <a href="#">New Orleans</a>  | 20 | 44 | .313 | 27 ½ | 11-22 | 9-22  |